# Online Testing Irregularity Submission System (OTISS)

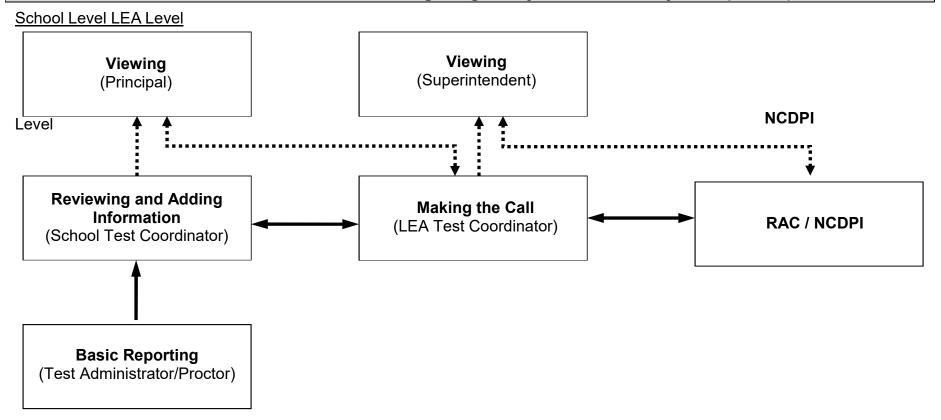
**User Manual** 



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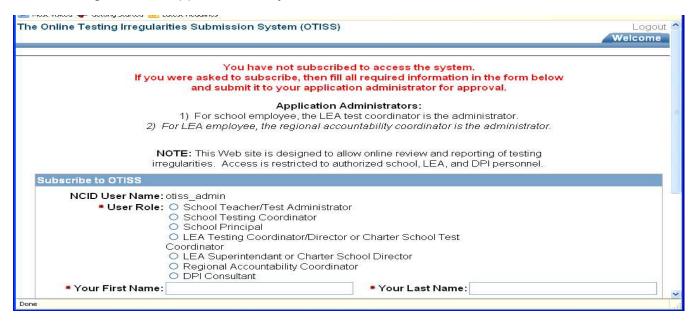
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#### Flowchart for the Online Testing Irregularity Submission System (OTISS)

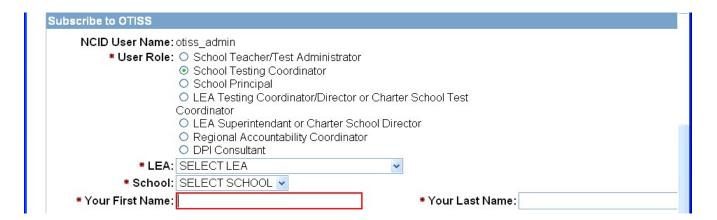


#### **OTISS Authorization Using NCID**

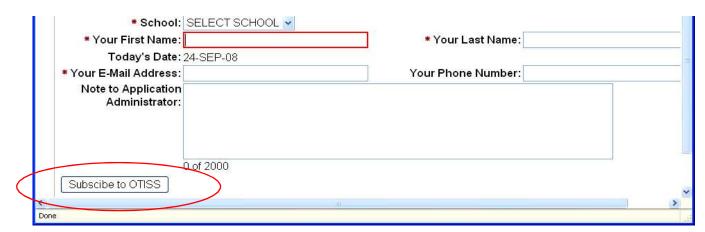
- 1. In order to obtain an NCID account, contact your local NCID administrator. A list of local NCID administrators can be found at <a href="https://www.ncid.its.state.nc.us/LEAListing.asp?Group=1">https://www.ncid.its.state.nc.us/LEAListing.asp?Group=1</a>.
- 2. Access the OTISS website at https://schools.nc.gov/pls/apex/f?p=888:1.
- 3. Enter your NCID user name and password to log in.
- 4. The following form will appear. Select your user role.



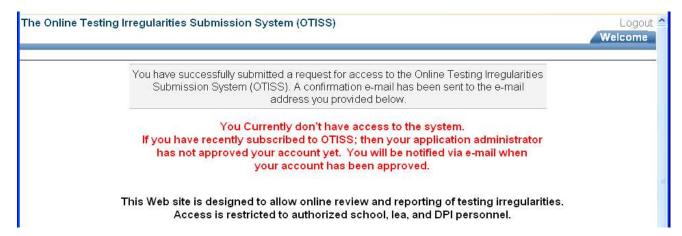
5. Select the required information from the dropdown menus that appear.



6. Fill out the rest of the required information and click the "Subscribe to OTISS" button.



7. A screen will appear informing you that the application administrator has not approved your account yet. An email will be sent to the address you provided once your account has been approved. You may then log in to the OTISS application using your NCID user name and password.

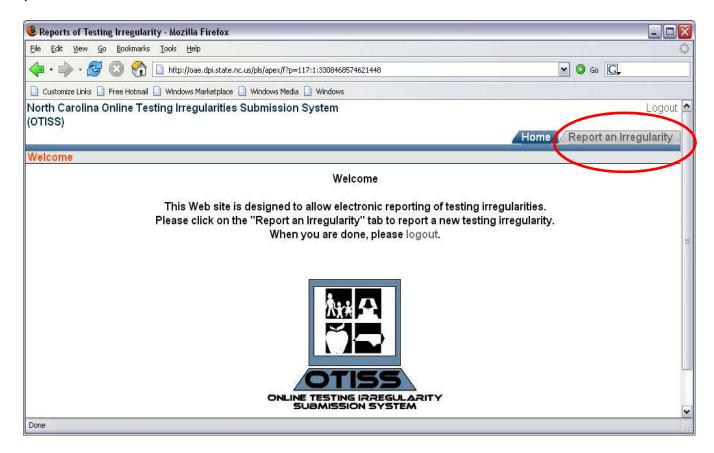


# Basic Reporting by Test Administrators, Proctors, and Other Authorized School Personnel

Before beginning, please note that all information entered into this system may be viewed by authorized personnel in your local school system and by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. All individuals engaged in the testing irregularity process must maintain confidentiality of individual student and faculty information. Publicizing any information regarding the testing irregularity is unethical and against policy.

#### **Getting Started**

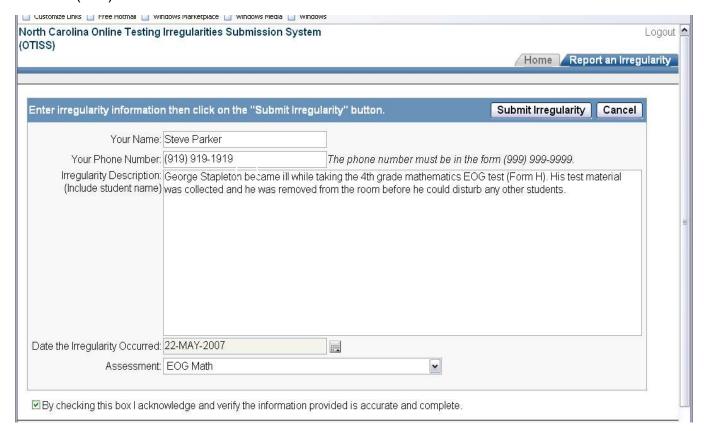
- 1. Access the OTISS Web site at https://schools.nc.gov/pls/apex/f?p=888:1.
- 2. Enter the **User Name** and **Password** you have been issued. You will be asked to personalize your password the first time you log in.
- 3. You will see the screen below. Click on the **Report an Irregularity** tab to begin the reporting process.



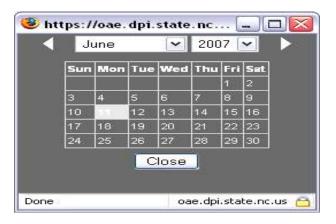
#### **Basic Reporting**

The following steps should be followed in order to start the testing irregularity reporting process:

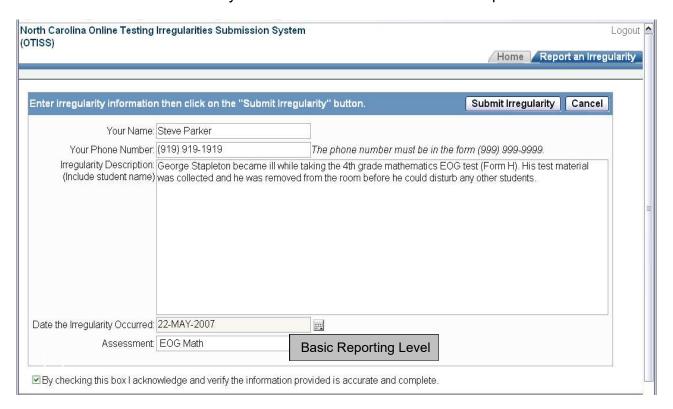
- 1. Enter the name of the person reporting the testing irregularity in the first text box.
- 2. Enter the school telephone number in the second information field. Make sure the phone number is in the (999) 999-9999 format.



- 3. Write a detailed description of the incident being reported in the **Irregularity Description** text box. The following information should be included:
  - A detailed description of the incident
  - The names and number of students involved
  - The grade level of the students being tested
  - The number and/or letter of the test form affected
- 4. Click on the calendar icon beside the **Date the Irregularity Occurred** text box. The pop-up window will appear.



- 5. Use the **arrows** on either side of the month and year or the **pulldown menus** to select the month and year the irregularity occurred. Next, click on the day the irregularity occurred on the calendar. The window will automatically close once you have selected a date.
- 6. Choose the correct assessment from the **Assessment** pulldown menu.
- 7. Click on the check box to verify the information is accurate and complete.



8. Click the **Submit Irregularity** button once to complete the process. The report of the testing irregularity will be sent to the School Test Coordinator and the Principal.



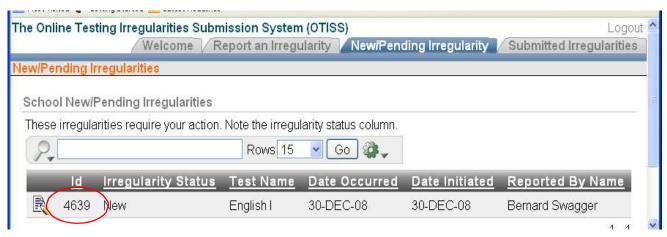
- 9. Select Logout to exit the Online Testing Irregularity Submission System(OTISS).
- 10. Select the **Report an Irregularity** tab and repeat the process if you have more testing irregularities to submit.
- 11. Consult with your School Test Coordinator to determine if additional information is needed.

#### Reviewing and Adding Student Information at the School Test Coordinator Level

Before beginning, please note that all information entered into this system may be viewed by authorized personnel in your local school system and by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. All individuals engaged in the testing irregularity process must maintain confidentiality of individual student and faculty information. Publicizing any information regarding the testing irregularity is unethical and against policy.

#### Reviewing New/Pending Testing Irregularities

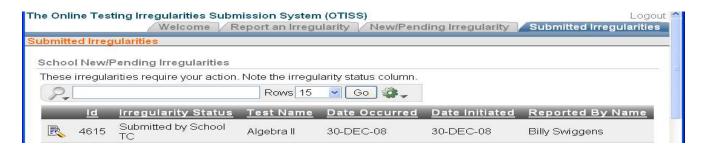
- 1. Once an irregularity has been entered at the school level, it appears in the school test coordinator's **New/Pending Irregularity** inbox. The school test coordinator must then add student information and submit the report to the LEA test coordinator.
- 2. A test coordinator can gauge where an irregularity is in the reporting process by looking at the **Irregularity Status** column.



3. The following are the irregularity status types you will see at the school level:

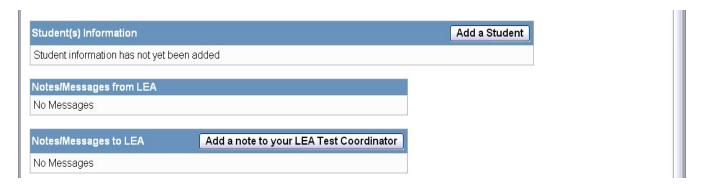
Irregularity Status	Explanation			
New	Has only been reported; not processed			
Submitted by School TC	Submitted to LEA			
Returned by LEA	Returned from LEA			

4. Once the student information has been added to the irregularity report, it can be submitted to the LEA test coordinator. It will then appear in the **Submitted Irregularities** outbox.

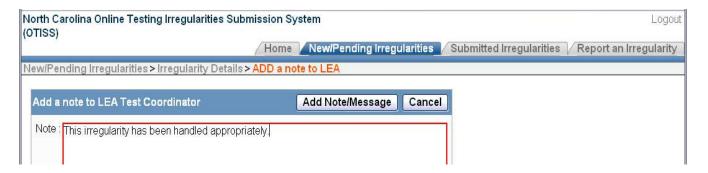


#### Adding Notes to the Testing Irregularity Report

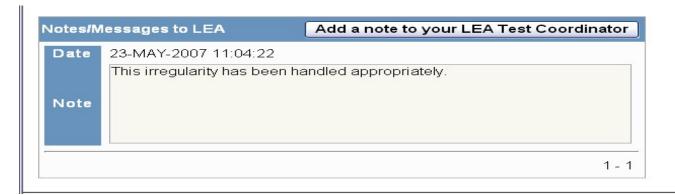
 If you need to add more information about the testing irregularity, click the Add a note to your LEA Test Coordinator button. These notes can only be seen by the LEA Test Coordinator and the reporting levels above the LEA Test Coordinator (see the flowchart on page 1 if you need clarification on reporting levels).



2. Type the additional information into the **Note** text box and click the **Add Note/Message** button.



 Once you click the Add Note/Message button, you will be returned to the previous page and your note will appear in the note text box. This dialog box enables the School Test Coordinator to exchange information with the LEA Test Coordinator and the levels above the LEA Test Coordinator.



#### Adding Student Information

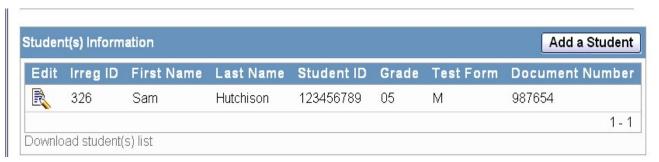
In order to add student information, click on the Add a Student button. <u>Note</u>: Adding student information is required in most cases for processing a testing irregularity. It may be returned from the LEA level if this information is missing.



2. The following screen will appear. Type the student information into the text boxes and click the **Add Student** button. For online tests, enter "OL" for the **Test Form** and type "Online" in the **Document Number** space.



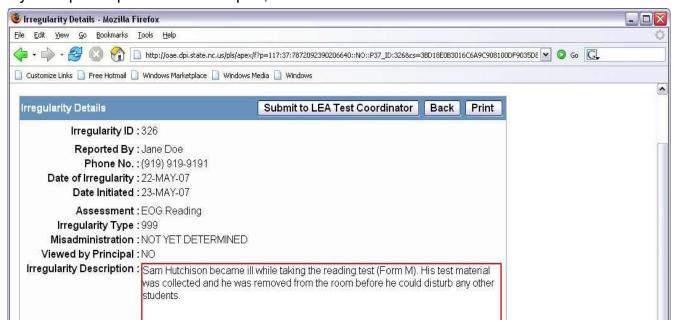
3. You will be returned to the previous screen and the student information will appear in the **Student(s) Information** section of the Web page.



- 4. Click the **paper/pencil icon** if you need to edit the student information.
- 5. If you would like to download a spreadsheet of the student information to your computer, then select the **Download student(s) list** link.

#### Completing the Submission

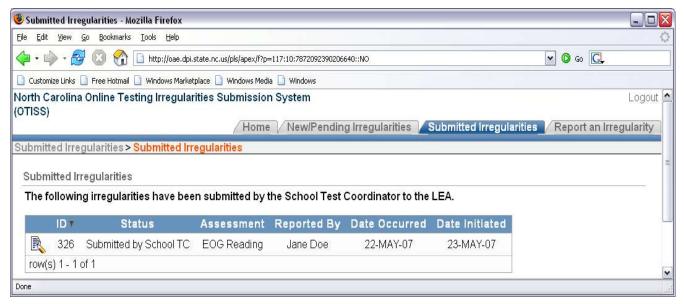
1. If you require a printout of this report, then click the **Print** button.



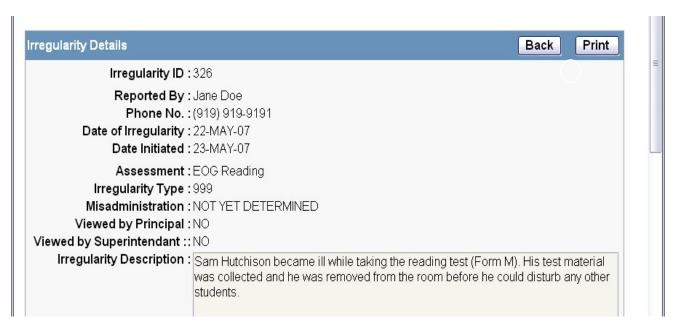
2. Once you have reviewed and added information to the testing irregularity report, then click on the **Submit to LEA Test Coordinator** button to complete the submission process.

#### Reviewing Submitted Irregularities

 If you need to review irregularities that have been submitted, then click the Submitted Irregularities tab.



2. Next, click the **paper/pencil icon** to see the details of the report. The submission screen will appear.



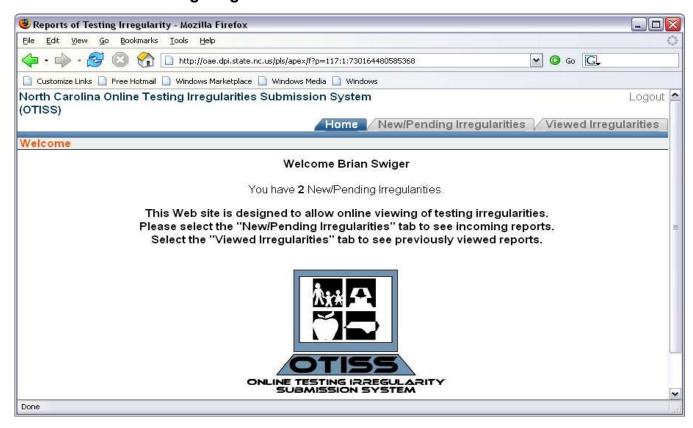
- 3. Click on the **Print** button to print the report. Click the **Back** button to return to the list of submitted irregularities.
- 4. Click the **Logout** link at any point in the process you wish to exit the website.

#### Viewing Testing Irregularities at the Principal Level

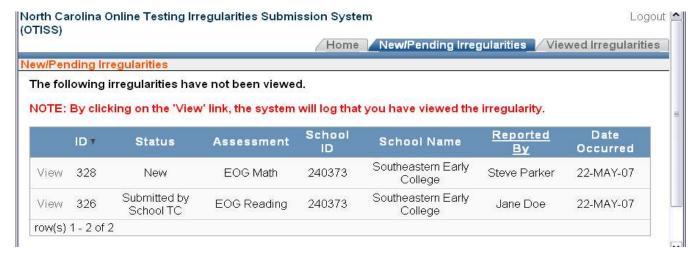
All irregularities submitted by the School Test Coordinator are automatically sent to the LEA Test Coordinator. Before beginning, please note that opening submitted irregularity reports automatically sends them to the "Viewed Irregularities" page of the website.

The following procedure should be followed by principals when reviewing submitted testing irregularities.

1. Click on the New/Pending Irregularities tab to view new submissions.

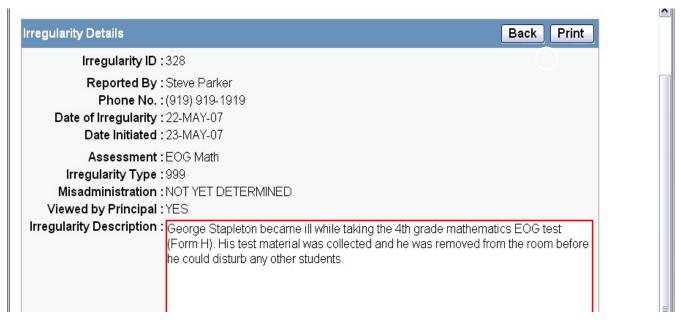


2. The screen below will appear.



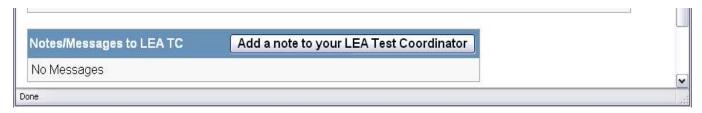
#### Viewing New Submissions

- 1. Click on the **View** link to see a detailed report of the testing irregularity.
- 2. Click the **Back** button to return to the previous screen. If you need a printout of the testing irregularity report, then click the **Print** button.

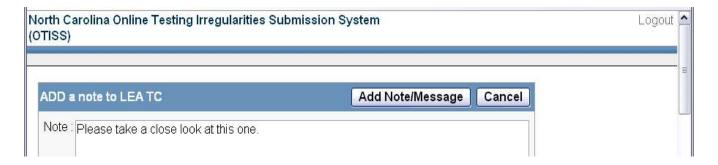


#### **Adding Notes**

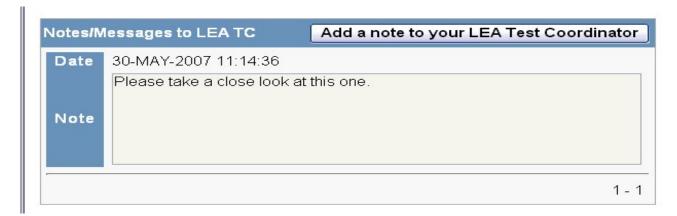
 Select the Add a note to your LEA Test Coordinator button to add any comments or questions about the testing irregularity.



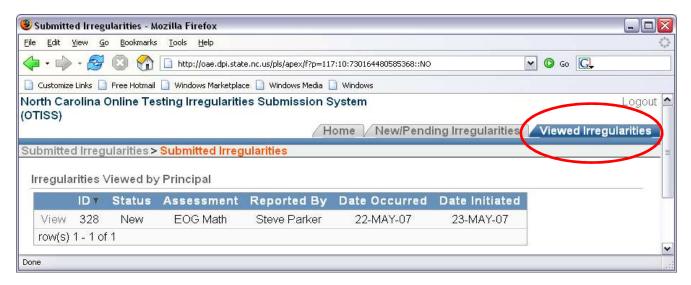
2. The following screen will appear. Type the additional information into the **Note** text box and click **Add Note/Message** to save. Select the **Cancel** button to delete the note and return to the previous screen.



3. The note will now appear on the same page as the testing irregularity report.



4. The testing irregularity report will now appear under the **Viewed Irregularities** tab.



5. Select the **Logout** link once you have finished viewing the submitted testing irregularity reports.

#### Classifying a Testing Irregularity at the LEA Test Coordinator Level

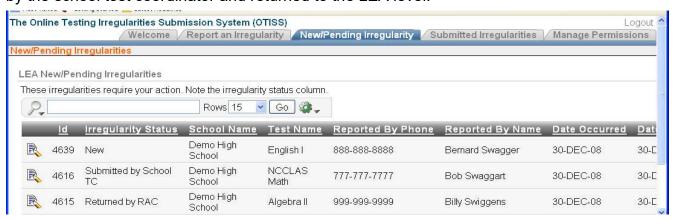
Before beginning, please note that all information entered into this system may be viewed by authorized personnel in your local school system and by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. All individuals engaged in the testing irregularity process must maintain confidentiality of individual student and faculty information. Publicizing any information regarding the testing irregularity is unethical and against policy.

The following process should be followed by LEA Test Coordinators to classify a testing irregularity or send it back to the School Level for more information.

1. When reporting an irregularity at the LEA level, the test coordinator must decide if he/she wants the report to be available to the school. This is done by selecting either the **Irregularity can be viewed by the school** or the **Irregularity cannot be viewed by the school** button. If neither option is selected, the school will be able to view the irregularity by default.



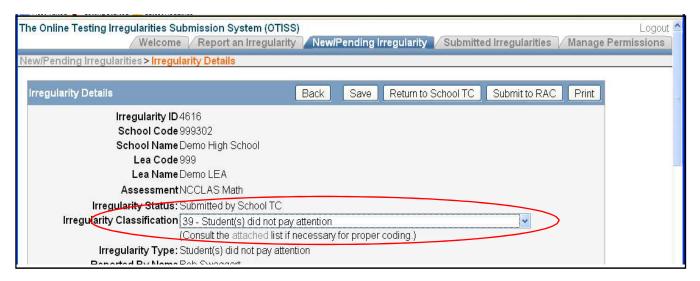
2. If an irregularity report is made available to the school, then it will appear as **New** in the **Irregularity Status** column of the **New/Pending Irregularities** inbox. It must then be processed by the school test coordinator and returned to the LEA level.



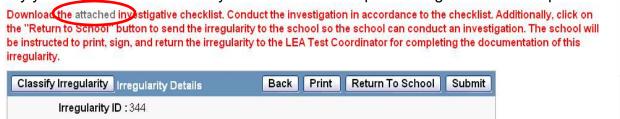
3. The following are the irregularity status types you will see at the LEA level:

Irregularity Status	Explanation		
New	Has only been reported; not processed		
Submitted by School TC	Submitted to LEA from School TC		
Returned by LEA	Returned from LEA to School TC		
Submitted by LEA	Submitted to RAC from LEA TC		
Returned by RAC	Returned from RAC to LEA TC		

- 4. If the LEA test coordinator chooses to report the irregularity from the LEA level without making it visible to the school, then it can be classified and submitted to the RAC level.
- 5. To classify an irregularity, open up the report by clicking the paper/pencil icon to the left of the **Id** number. Select an **Irregularity Classification** from the pulldown menu and then fill out the remainder of the electronic form (it is identical to the old paper form).



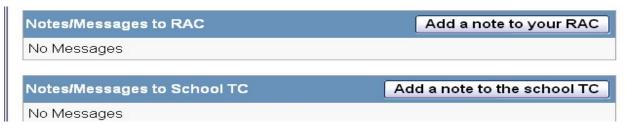
- 6. Once the irregularity has been classified, then it can be submitted to the RAC by clicking the Submit to RAC button. If the report requires more information for classification, then it should be returned to the school by clicking the Return to School TC button. A note may be added to specify what additional information is needed.
- 7. If the testing irregularity is a Category 2 or 3 security violation, then the following text will appear when you are returned to the previous screen.
- 8. Notify your regional accountability coordinator before proceeding to the next step.



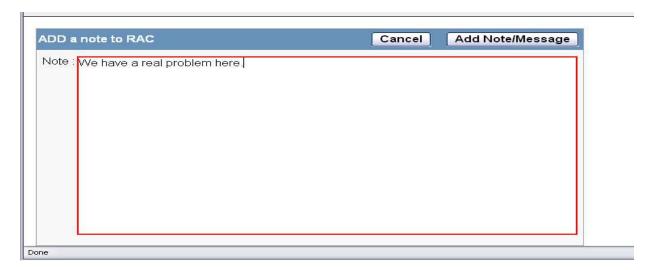
- 9. Click the attached link (in gray text) to download the investigative checklist.
- 10. In the case of a Category 2 or 3 security violation, click the **Return To School** button in accordance with the investigation procedures. <u>Note</u>: You may add notes to the School Test Coordinator or the RAC before returning the report (see below).

#### Adding a Note

1. The buttons to add notes are visible toward the bottom of the page. Click on either button to add a note before submitting or returning the testing irregularity report.



2. The following screen will appear. Type the note into the text box and click the **Add Note/Message** button. Use the **Cancel** button if you decide not to send a note.



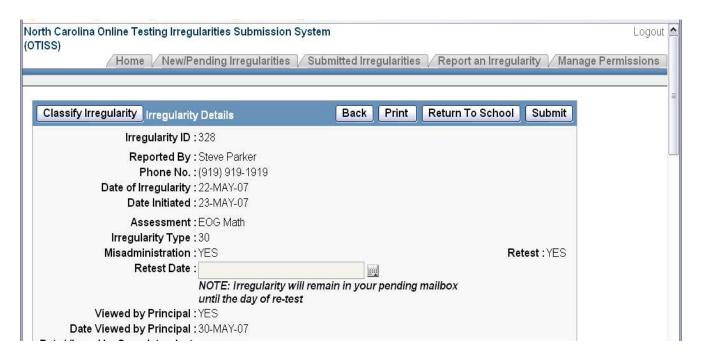
3. The note will now appear on the submission page.



#### Submitting a Testing Irregularity Report

1. Once the testing irregularity report has been classified, then click the **Submit** button. This will move the report on to the RAC/NCDPI level.

<u>Note</u>: The report will remain on the "New/Pending Irregularities" page until the date of retest has passed. It will then automatically move to the "Submitted Irregularities" page.



- 2. The testing irregularity report will now appear under the **Submitted Irregularities** tab.
- 3. Select the **Download** link to obtain a spreadsheet file of the submitted irregularities.

#### Viewing Testing Irregularities at the Superintendent Level

All irregularities submitted by the LEA Test Coordinators are automatically sent to the Regional Accountability Coordinators. Before beginning, please note that opening submitted irregularity reports automatically sends them to the "Viewed Irregularities" page of the website.

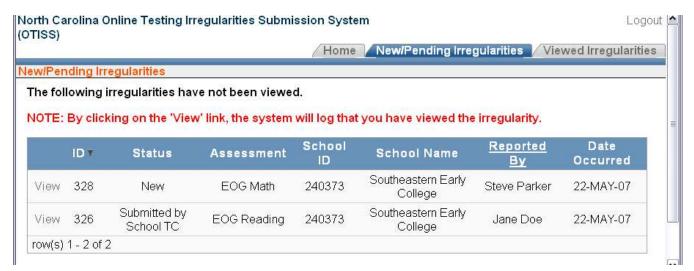
The following procedures should be followed by superintendents when reviewing submitted testing irregularities.

1. Click on the **New/Pending Irregularities** tab to view new submissions.



#### Viewing New Submissions

1. Click on the **View** link to see a detailed report of the testing irregularity.

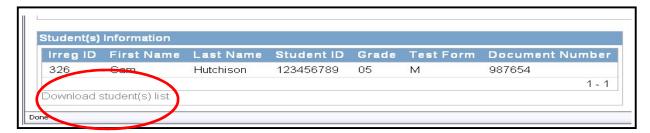


2. Click the **Back** button to return to the previous screen. If you need a printout of the testing irregularity report, then click the **Print** button.



#### **Downloading Student Information**

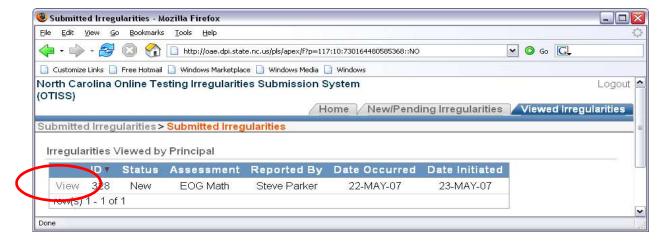
 If the user wishes to download information about the student(s) involved in a testing irregularity, then click on the **Download student(s) list** link under the Student Information section.



2. An Excel spreadsheet will open on your desktop and automatically populate with the student information.

#### After Viewing

1. The testing irregularity report will now appear under the **Viewed Irregularities** tab.



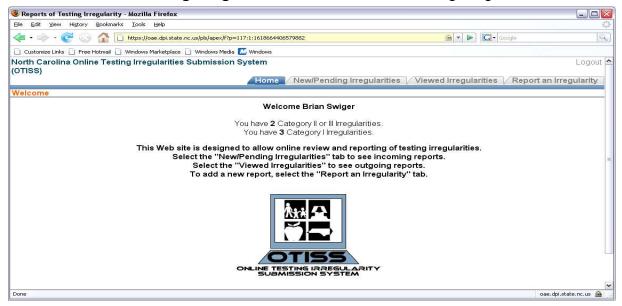
- 2. By clicking the **View** link, the information can be viewed again if necessary.
- 3. Select the **Logout** link once you have finished viewing the submitted testing irregularity reports.

#### Viewing Testing Irregularities at the RAC Level

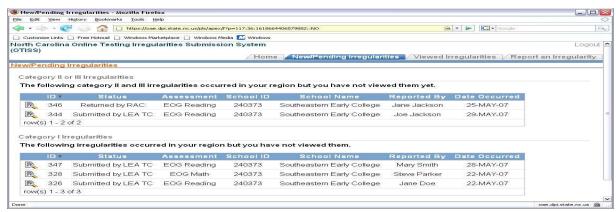
The following procedure should be followed by Regional Accountability Coordinators viewing testing irregularities submitted in their region:

#### Viewing New/Pending Irregularities

- 1. Access the OTISS website at https://schools.nc.gov/pls/apex/f?p=888:1.
- Enter the User Name and Password you have been issued. (You will be asked to personalize your Password the first time you log in.) The following screen will appear. Note that the help text under the "Welcome" line provides information on the types of irregularities that have been submitted.
- 3. Click on the **New/Pending Irregularities** tab to access incoming irregularities.



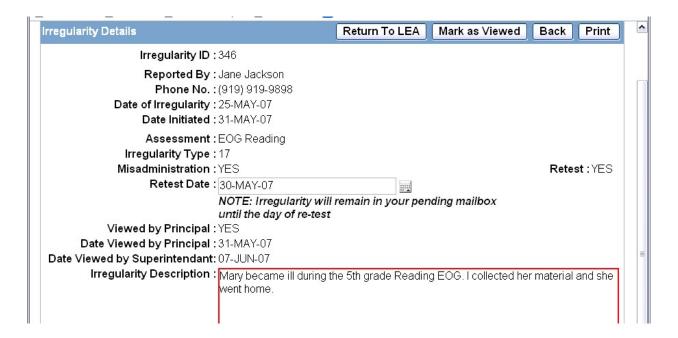
- 4. The screen below will appear.
- 5. The submitted irregularities will be listed by category.
- 6. Click on the **paper/pencil icon** to open up each individual report.



#### **Four Options**

After reviewing the information, the user has four options represented by the four buttons at the top of the page:

- Return To LEA If more information is required, the testing irregularity can be returned to the LEA with an attached note.
- 2. Mark as Viewed If the information is complete, the report can be moved on to the NCDPI level.
- 3. **Back** This will keep the report in the New/Pending Irregularities box until you are ready to move it on to NCDPI.
- 4. **Print** This button will allow the user to print a hard copy of the report.



<u>Note</u>: The user will need to refer to the Testing Irregularity List located in Appendix B of the user manual to identify the Irregularity Type.

#### Adding a Note to the LEA Test Coordinator

1. If it is necessary to return the testing irregularity report to the LEA level for more information, the RAC should click the **Add a note to LEA TC** button toward the bottom of the page.



2. The following screen will appear. Type the message into the text box and select the **Add Note/Message** button.

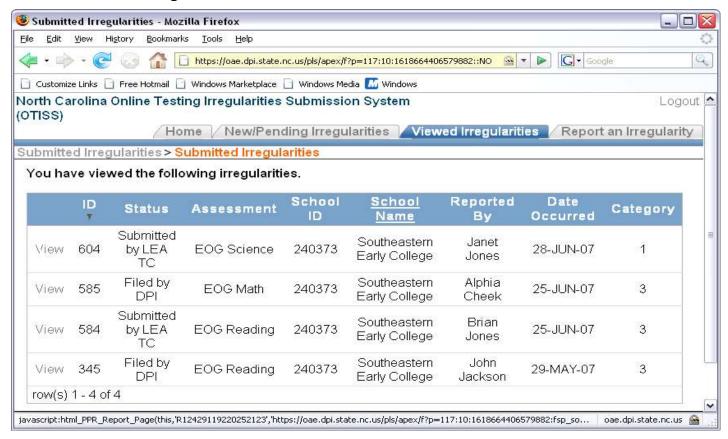


3. Your message will now be displayed on the main report page.



#### Viewed Irregularities

 Once a testing irregularity report has been moved to the NCDPI level, it will automatically appear under the Viewed Irregularities tab.



2. If it is necessary to view the information on a report again, then click on the **View** link.

#### Reporting an Irregularity

1. To report an irregularity at the RAC level, select the **Report an Irregularity** tab and follow the procedure in the Basic Reporting by Test Administrators, Proctors, and Other Authorized School Personnel section of the OTISS User Manual.



#### Filing and Reclassifying Testing Irregularities at the Consultant Level

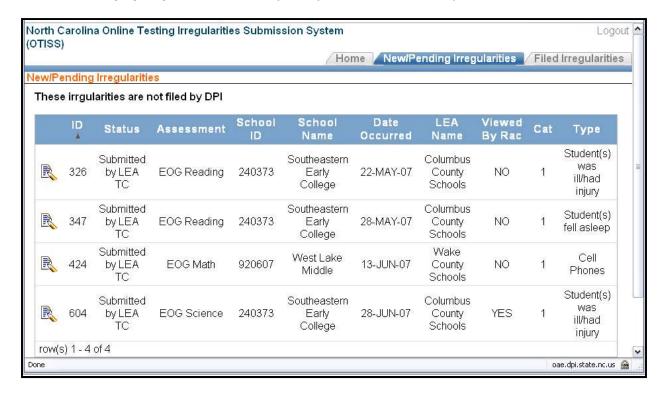
#### Viewing New/Pending Irregularities

- 1. Access the OTISS Web site at https://schools.nc.gov/pls/apex/f?p=888:1.
- Enter the User Name and Password you have been issued. (You will be asked to
  personalize your password the first time you log in.) The following screen will appear. Note
  that the help text under the Welcome line provides information on the types of irregularities
  that have been submitted.
- 3. Click on the New/Pending Irregularities tab to access incoming irregularities.



4. The submitted irregularities will be listed by categories that can be sorted by clicking on them.

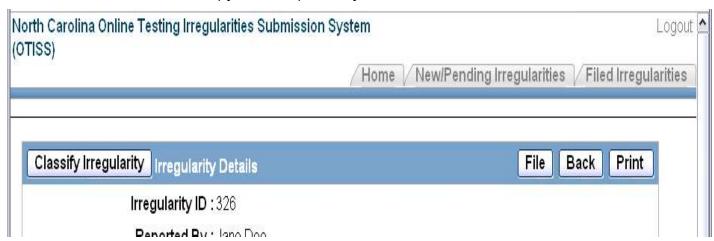
5. Click on the **paper/pencil icon** to open up each individual report.



#### **Four Options**

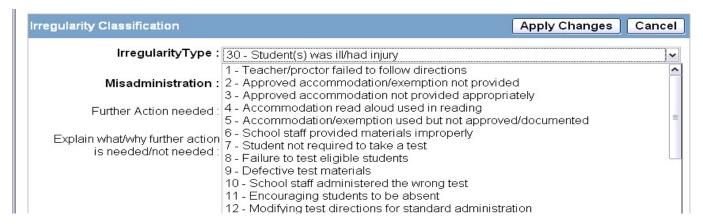
After reviewing the information, the user has four options represented by the four buttons at the top of the page:

- 1. Classify Irregularity If the irregularity is not classified correctly, click this button to reclassify it.
- File Select this option to file the irregularity into the NCDPI database.
- 3. **Back** Clicking "Back" will leave the irregularity under the New/Pending Irregularities tab.
- 4. **Print** Provides a hard copy of the report for your records.



#### Reclassifying an Irregularity Report

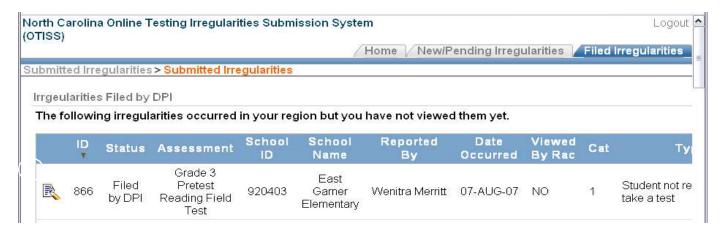
1. After clicking the **Classify Irregularity** button, select another testing irregularity classification from the pulldown menu.



2. Select the **Apply Changes** button to complete the reclassification process.

#### Viewed Irregularities

- 1. Once a testing irregularity report has been moved to the NCDPI database, it will automatically appear under the **Filed Irregularities** tab.
  - 2. If it is necessary to view the information on a report again, then click on the **paper/pencil icon**.



3. Select Logout to exit the Online Testing Irregularity Submission System (OTISS).

# Appendix A Websites and Contact Information

The Online Testing Irregularity Submission System (OTISS) Website

https://schools.nc.gov/pls/apex/f?p=888:1

User documentation and tutorials

http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/policies/otiss

Contact the following person with feedback regarding the User Manual or the Website:

Paul Davis Paul.Davis@dpi.nc.gov 919.807.3803

#### Appendix B

#### Testing Irregularities List

LEAs send all reports of testing irregularities to the RAC. After reviewing each testing irregularity, the RAC forwards all reports to the NCDPI. The RAC stores copies of all reports at the regional office for three years and then recycles the reports under secure conditions.

#### **Test Administration Issues:**

- 1. Teacher/proctor failed to follow directions
- 2. Approved accommodation/exemption not provided
- 3. Approved accommodation not provided appropriately
- 4. Accommodation "read aloud" used in reading
- 5. Accommodation/exemption used but not approved/documented
- 6. School staff provided materials improperly
- 7. Student not required to take a test
- 8. Failure to test eligible students
- 9. Defective test materials
- 10. School staff administered the wrong test

#### **Security Issues:**

- 16. Failure to remove inappropriate displays
- 17. Secure material divulged
- 18. Teacher/proctor inadequately supervised testing
- 19. Improper use of test materials
- 20. Missing test material
- 21. Test books not properly returned
- 22. Test materials not stored in secure locked area
- 23. Items from secure test used for instruction
- 24. Reproduction of secure test in any manner or form
- 25. Making copies of test available to others
- 26. Online test connectivity/technical problems
- 27. Failure to delete secure electronic files
- 28. Incorrect/wrong number of materials given to school

#### **Procedural Issues:**

- 11. Encouraging students to be absent
- 12. Modifying test directions for standard administration
- 13. Teacher altered responses
- 14. Teacher/proctor gave improper assistance or provided improper instruction
- 15. Test not administered on designated date/window

#### **Student Issues & Other:**

- 29. Student(s) cheated by copying, cheat sheet, asking for info.
- 30. Student(s) was ill/had injury
- 31. Student(s) was anxious
- 32. Student(s) had a problem with medication, glasses, etc.
- 33. Student(s) absent
- 34. Student(s) went to bathroom
- 35. Student(s) left school for appointment
- 36. Student(s) refused to take test
- 37. Student(s) marked test randomly
- 38. Student(s) fell asleep
- 39. Student(s) did not pay attention
- 40. Student(s) was disruptive
- 41. Student(s) misaligned answer sheet
- 42. [No longer applies]
- 43. Student(s) did not follow directions
- 44. Student(s) worked on wrong section of test
- 45. Student(s) used calculator inappropriately
- 46. Student(s) brought inappropriate resource
- 47. Student(s) has family/personal problem
- 48. External noises/disruption
- 49. Student refused to use approved accommodation
- 50. Fire alarm/bomb threat
- 51. Other
- 52. Cell Phones

### Appendix C

#### Online Testing Irregularity Submission System (OTISS) **Investigation Checklist**

This form and all accompanying documentation MUST be submitted electronically.

OTISS ID#:	Name of Regional Acc Coordinator (RAC):			~	
<b>School System Name:</b>	Date RAC Contacted:				
School Name:	Date of Occurrence:				
The following steps m	ust be completed with	in five (5)	days of when tl	ne irregularity oc	curs or is identified.
Step		Completion Date	Additional Information		
1. Identify Level 3 Irregularity Classification:			Irregularity Classification:		
<ol> <li>OTISS:         Test Coordinator (TC) subm         This must occur on the same identified.     </li> <li>Collection of Evide (e.g., test books, answer sheet)</li> </ol>	day the irregularity oc	ecurs or is		List Evidence Co	ollected:
classroom displays)	_				
<ul> <li>4. Statements and Interviews:</li> <li>Obtain written and signed statements from all parties involved.</li> <li>Conduct interviews with everyone (including students if necessary) involved in the incident. The interviews should include questions of a non-objective nature, and each interview should be conducted by two staff members.</li> <li>5. Summary of any disciplinary action taken:</li> </ul>				Name(s)/Role(s)	of Person(s) Involved:
TC should collaborate with leadership to prepare a written statement of any disciplinary action taken in association					
with the incident.  6. Action Plan:  TC should submit a written a strategies that will prevent a	action plan that identifi	les cident			
7. Upload all evidence				as electronic atta  Summary(s)  Questions are interviews  Summary of taken at the school  Action plan will prevent a re  Completed/s	checklist must be included achments: of the incident and answers collected during any disciplinary action fool or district level dentifying strategies that occurrence of the incident igned School Testing estigation Checklist
Principal's/Director's Name		Signature		Date	
LEA/Charter School Test Co	ordinator's Name	Signatur	e	Da	nte
Superintendent's Name North Carolina Department of Public In	struction	Signatur	e	Da	nte Division of Accountability Services

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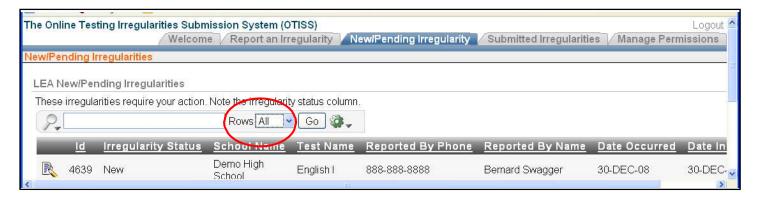
Revised 2/2019

Division of Accountability Services

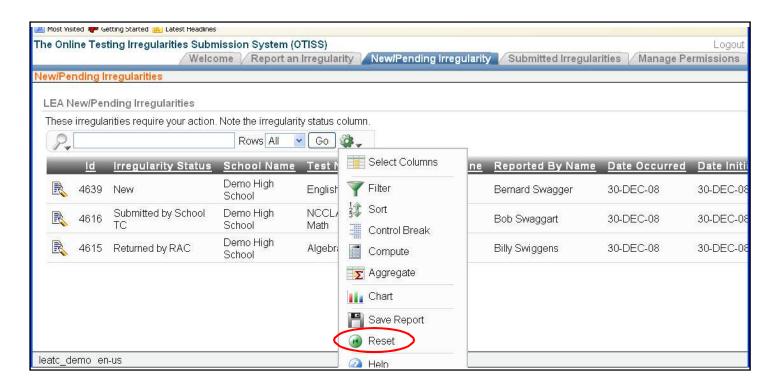
# **Appendix D**Filtering and Searching Tips for OTISS

#### Displaying All of the Reports at One Time

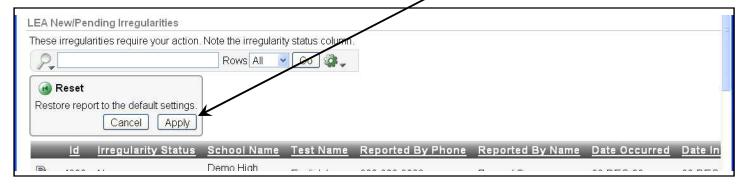
- 1. On the OTISS screens that display lists of irregularity reports, the application only shows 15 reports by default. If you are visually searching for an irregularity report, it helps to see all of them at one time.
- 2. First, select All from the pulldown menu next to the word Rows.



3. Next, click on the down arrow next to the green gear and select **Reset** from the choices on the menu.



4. A small reset box will appear at the top of the screen. Click the **Apply** button and the screen will show all of the reported irregularities by default from now on.

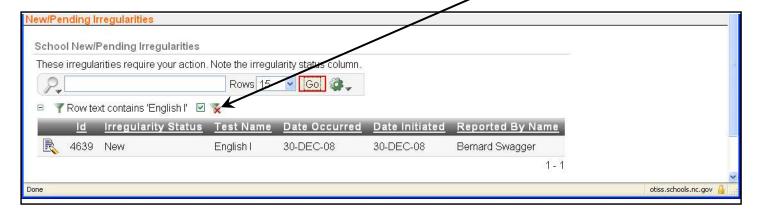


#### Searching for an Irregularity Report

1. The easiest way to find a report is to use the search box at the top of the page next to the magnifying glass icon. Type in any of the information listed in each column and click **Go**.

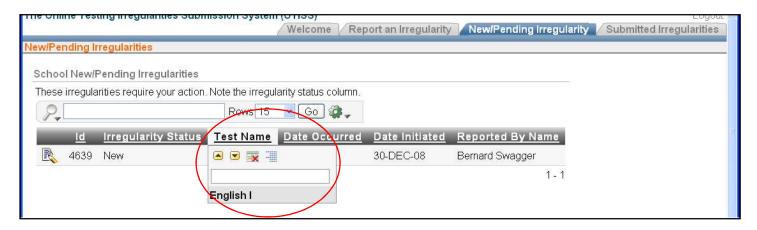


2. The requested information will appear on the screen by itself. Click the red X over the filter icon to return the screen to normal.



#### Filtering by Column

1. Another option when searching for an irregularity report is to click on a column heading. A search box will appear along with a list of the items in the column. Either click directly on the item or type it into the search box.



2. Click the red **X** over the filter icon to return the screen to normal.